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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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January 14, 2016

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: 
Sheryl L. Spiller, Director

**SUBJECT: MOTION BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EXPRESS LANE ENROLLMENT PROJECT (ITEM NO. 2,
JUNE 4, 2014)**

This is to provide you with our monthly status report on the Department of Public Social Services' (DPSS) progress in implementing the Express Lane Medi-Cal (ELMC) Project to provide Medi-Cal coverage to CalFresh participants. Below is a summary of our outreach efforts and data on the number of enrollments.

On June 4, 2014, on a motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, the Board instructed the Director of DPSS to fully implement the Express Lane streamlined eligibility process described in the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All County Welfare Directors Letter and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services Guidance. DPSS was instructed to report back to the Board in writing within 60 days and monthly thereafter.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

On January 11, 2016, DHCS reported that they will no longer produce the monthly file of CalFresh participants enrolled in ELMC in Los Angeles County due to the expiration of their Data Release Agreement. Once the Center of Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) approves the extension of the ELMC Project, DHCS will resume ELMC reporting to the Counties. DHCS anticipates receiving CMS' approval within the next few weeks. Additionally, DPSS continues to offer eligible participants the opportunity to enroll in ELMC beyond December 31, 2015.

DPSS also continues to offer eligible participants the opportunity to opt-in during every point of contact by phone or in-person, particularly during their CalFresh recertification interviews. During December 2015, we outreached to 895 CalFresh households who do not already have Medi-Cal to encourage enrollment into ELMC. As a result, 717 CalFresh participants opted to enroll in ELMC. Also, to date 18 responded to our outreach mailer, and 3,071 CalFresh participants were subsequently enrolled in ELMC.

Of those who declined, the main stated reasons included: other healthcare coverage, only want CalFresh benefits, will apply for ELMC later, and not interested.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (562) 908-8383, or your staff may contact Jose R. Perez, Assistant Director, at (562) 908-8633, or via email at joseperez@dpss.lacounty.gov.

SLS:ca

c: Chief Executive Officer
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel